

Maryland Legislative Lobby for Life Inc.

SB 890 Abortion Care Access Act Unfavorable

Finance and Budget and Taxation Committees

Wednesday, February 23, 2022

Good Afternoon, this is testimony from Maryland Legislative Lobby for Life, Inc. in opposition to SB 890, the Abortion Care Access Act, its Abortion Clinical Care Training Program, its Abortion Care Clinical Training Program Fund and its provision of free insurance for abortion.

Senate Bill 890 will use \$3.5 million dollars of public money from Maryland citizens every year for the Maryland Department of Health to train people to kill unborn children (page 3, lines 5-6). Facilitating the killing of the next generation of Marylanders is a completely inappropriate role for the state's Department of Health to be involved with.

We oppose abortion. But beyond us, using tax money for abortion is a policy that the majority of Marylanders have always opposed even those who think it is fine when one uses one's own money. More outrageous in this bill is that the Maryland Department of Health will use taxpayer's money to train workers for a private industry that kills the youngest Marylanders.

Regarding the bill's "coordinating organization" (page 1, lines 27-28), the bill is tailor made for the controversial group, Planned Parenthood. As a non-profit group (page 3-line 21) with a history of training doctors¹ (page 3, lines 17-20) Planned Parenthood is the most obvious coordinating organization to run the \$3.5 million dollar per year program (page 5 line 6). Since it has to pick two sites to do the training (page 4-lines 2-4), that would certainly fund and staff its Baltimore and Annapolis abortion clinics.

These clinics are links in the country's biggest abortion clinic chain. We object to giving state money to them and most people who know how they locate their clinics in minority neighborhoods, where they abort the babies of minority girls and women who have often learned about Planned Parenthood when the group was invited into in their high school classrooms to give their, "Your mother will never find out about it" sales pitch², also object to giving state money to them.

SB 890 furthers the message of secrecy from parents on page 8, lines 1-3 where parental notification is destroyed by allowing a simple note in the chart that notification was attempted with no paper trail of notification anywhere. These practices take advantage of the young and are looked upon by some as a form of genocide ². Should Maryland support such activities?

No matter who the coordinating organization is, the bill's training program is supposed to expand the number of those in the state who will be performing abortions.

SB 890 is silent on who gives the trainees the authorization to perform abortions? The General Assembly, the Department of Health? The Boards of the different specialties? The coordinating organization? How will trainees be tested for competency? Who will do that testing?

The definition of "qualified provider" is unclear (page 6, line 31 and page 7 lines 1-6). In addition to known specialties such as "a physician, nurse-practitioner, nurse-midwife, licensed certified midwife, physician assistant, the bill adds: "**any other individual** who is **licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized** by law **to practice** in the state". (page 7, lines 3 and 4)

Who is this "**any other individual** who is **licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized** by law **to practice** in the state" Practice what? Opticians, Nursing Assistants, Nutrition Specialists are certified by law to practice in the state. Dietitian-nutritionists are licensed by law to practice in the state as are many others. What does this mean? Who is the bill saying will be trained to perform abortions?

Adding the next two lines about performance of abortion being within the scope of the individual's license or certification adds nothing to our understanding of what the bill means since no one named except the medical doctors have that scope in their licenses currently. (Page 7, lines 4 and 5)

Does anyone think that this training will be sufficient to allow non-doctors to perform abortions?

The 2020 opinion of the Attorney General was that, the performance of abortions in Maryland is limited to physicians. There is a good reason for this.

Handling the complications of abortion: lacerated cervixes, perforated uteruses, hemorrhages, takes a type of training in surgery that is not within the training of the other specialties named in the bill and no doubt not in the training of those practicing something or other (what?) with a “certificate”. When one is dealing with a hemorrhaging woman it’s not enough to know how to dial 911.

The insurance coverage in SB 890, is dream come true for the abortion industry. The bill mandates that for certain insurers who provide labor and delivery, all costs of abortion, the most expensive and dangerous method of birth control, must be free to the patient (page 9, lines 28-30 and on page 10, lines 1-2) and the state mandates that certain adults age 18-40 (page 10, lines 30-31) who meet certain poverty guidelines will get a subsidy that covers 100% of the cost of the insurance premium (page 11, lines 8-11). This might be fine in certain circumstances except that in combination with free abortion it seems a program for eliminating the children of the poor.³

The icing on the cake for an abortionist is that the state is mandating the insurance company to publicize this program to its consumers (page 10, lines 6 and 7) which is free advertising for the abortionists in the state.

Anyone can have grave questions about SB 890 because of its vagueness on who will be performing abortions on the young women of our state, the danger to girls and women of guiding them to use free abortion as a method of birth control, the affront to the people of Maryland of using multi-millions of their hard earned tax dollars to prop up a business which encourages minority girls and women to kill their own children and then gets paid a “storage fee” for providing the body parts of those children to researchers, the insertion of pro- abortion sections into an insurance program which was designed to help those who have autoimmune diseases as a result of infections or who need dental care (page 6-lines 11-26) or are poor³ .

We urge the committee to give an unfavorable report to this bill.

Thank you,
Sheila Wharam, Secretary
MLLL, Inc.

1. Planned Parenthood has been involved for decades in abortion training but with MD's or medical students. <https://www.nytimes.com › 1993 › 06 › 19 › nyregion › planned-parenthood-of-new-york-begins-abortion-training.html>

2. [This was a message I heard](#) in public school classrooms [when I was invited in](#) to balance pro-abortion speakers. [SW](#).

3. For example:

[Planned Parenthood - BlackGenocide.org](#)
www.blackgenocide.org › planned.html

Planned Parenthood is the largest abortion provider in America. 78% of their clinics are in minority communities. Blacks make up 12% of the population, but 35% of the abortions in America. Are we being targeted? Isn't that **genocide**?

4. The attitude toward the poor and the ill of Margaret Sanger, the founder of The American Birth Control League later called Planned Parenthood's -Not Maryland's attitude we hope.

“The third group [of society] are those irresponsible and reckless ones having little regard for the consequences of their acts, or whose religious scruples prevent their exercising control over their numbers. Many of this group are diseased, feeble-minded, and **are of the pauper element** dependent upon the normal and fit members of society for their support. **There is no doubt in the minds of all thinking people that the procreation of this group should be stopped**”.

- Speech quoted in "Birth Control: What It Is, How It Works, What It Will Do." The Proceedings of the *First American Birth Control Conference*. Held at the Hotel Plaza, New York City, November 11-12, **1921**. Published by the Birth Control Review, Gothic Press, pages 172 and 174.